

FIREMEN CRUSHED.

Many Killed and Injured By Falling Walls at St. Louis.

They Came Down in a Heap With a Noise That Could Be Heard For Blocks—The Chief Had a Narrow Escape.

St. Louis, Feb. 5.—At least six firemen killed and as many more injured at a fire which broke out Tuesday night in the five-story stone and brick building located at 314 Chestnut street, occupied by the American Tent and Awning Co. The building suddenly collapsed and although the half dozen men who were caught in the crash had not been reached by their hard working companions two hours later, it is almost absolutely certain that they have succumbed.

The building in which the fire originated was located in the old business section of the city, and was about 50 years old. The blaze, which proved a hard one for the fire department to master, had been gotten practically under control, when suddenly with absolutely no warning it collapsed and came down in a heap with a noise that could be heard for blocks. Three firemen at work on the second floor had difficulty in managing a line of hose, and Assistant Chief Thierry was on his way with three of his men to lend them aid when the building collapsed. The men went down with tons of twisted iron, brick, stone and wooden columns enveloping them. Chief Swingley, who was in front of the building directing his men, had a miraculous escape from death. As the front wall fell in he hurried across the street and fell under the aerial truck. The truck was covered with debris, and partly wrecked, and it is to its sheltering protection the chief owes his life. Frank Lingo, driver of the truck, was directing a stream on the fire from the aerial ladder, about forty feet from the ground when the wall fell. A portion of the debris struck him and he was hurled through the air to the ground, receiving fatal injuries.

Chief Swingley put his entire force to work at once in an effort to rescue the buried firemen, but although the men worked like demons they had not been able to reach them at midnight. It is a certainty that all are dead, as tons of debris cover them.

Following is a list of the losses: American Tent and Awning Co., \$25,000; McLean & Tate, loss on building, \$35,000; Herman Ruppelt, job printer, \$10,000; scattering, \$5,000.

The first body taken from the ruins was that of William Dundon at 2:30 Wednesday morning. He was barely conscious and badly crushed. He was taken to the hospital. No hopes are entertained for his recovery.

WANTS A CHANGE OF VENUE.

Mrs. Soffel Does Not Wish to Be Tried in Pittsburgh.

Butler, Pa., Feb. 5.—Realizing that she has ruined her husband, Mrs. Soffel does not wish to bring further disgrace and humiliation upon him. She now desires a change of venue when she faces the trial. She tearfully made this request of Assistant District Attorney John S. Robb, jr., of Allegheny county, in the hospital here Tuesday. She said she is willing to meet any fate the law may place upon her, but does not want the punishment administered in the courthouse across the street from her old home. She begged Mr. Robb for almost two hours to grant her this much, in the name of her husband, who is Mr. Robb's friend, and told him that her husband was in no way to blame for her conduct.

Mrs. Soffel told the attorney that although she had been charged with a crime against the state, she had never sinned. She pleaded that her act was brought about through her sympathy for the Biddles, and not her love.

MINERS' CONFERENCE.

Disagreement Upon Every One of the Seven Propositions.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 5.—The mine operators and mine workers, in the secret session of their scale committees Tuesday disagreed upon every one of the seven propositions submitted by the miners, and the whole matter was referred for discussion to the open joint conference held Tuesday afternoon. There the operators voted unanimously against the scale proposition offered by the miners, and the whole matter was finally referred back to the joint committee.

Russian Bishopric For Manchuria. St. Petersburg, Feb. 5.—A Russian bishopric for Manchuria, with headquarters at Peking, will be established during the present year. The ecclesiastical department has already assigned 50,000 roubles for the construction of an orthodox monastery in a prominent Manchurian town.

Judge Baker Installed. Chicago, Feb. 5.—Francis E. Baker, of Goshen, Ind., was installed as judge of the United States circuit court of appeals of the Seventh district here Thursday. The Seventh district embraces Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

School Children's Contributions. Minneapolis, Minn., Feb. 5.—The school children of Minneapolis have come to the front very strongly in their contributions to the McKinley memorial fund. The total of the contributions was \$685.

A HIGHER BRANCH.

Graduate School to Be Conducted By The Ohio State University.

Columbus, O., Feb. 6.—A prospectus of the new graduate school in agriculture, to be conducted under the auspices of the Ohio state university and with the co-operation of the United States department of agriculture, was issued Wednesday. The purpose of the school is to give advanced instruction in the science of agriculture and particularly in the methods of investigating agricultural problems. Only students who have completed a college course and taken a bachelor's degree will be admitted, except when such non-graduates are recommended by the faculty of the college as qualified to profit by advanced instruction in agriculture.

Special inaugural exercises will be held in the university chapel Monday, July 7, in which the following prominent men will take part: Hon. James Wilson, secretary of agriculture; Hon. William Liggett, dean of the college of agriculture of the University of Minnesota, and president of the Association of American Agricultural and Experiment Stations; Dr. H. C. White, president of Georgia state college of agricultural and mechanic arts and member of the executive committee of A. A. C. F.; Dr. W. O. Thompson, president of Ohio state university, and Dr. A. C. True, director of office of experiment stations and dean of the graduate school of agriculture.

The following officers will be at the head of the new college: Wm. Oxley Thompson, D. D., L. L. D., president; Alfred Charles True, Ph. D., dean; Thomas Forsythe Hunt, M. S., registrar.

The first session will be from July 7 to August 7.

WILL VISIT THE EXPOSITION.

The President and Party Will Leave For Charleston Next Monday.

Washington, Feb. 6.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt and the party who will accompany them to the Charleston exposition will leave here for the south next Monday night in a special train over the Southern railway. The hour for departure has not been definitely fixed, but the train will reach Summerville, S. C., on Tuesday afternoon. Tuesday night will be spent at the Pine Forest Inn, Summerville, as the guest of Capt. Wagner, president of the exposition. At this point the party will inspect the tea farms nearby. On Wednesday the party will go to Charleston, spending the day in that city and at the exposition grounds. At night a banquet will be given the president and party at the Charleston hotel. The return journey will begin Thursday, February 13. The train will reach Washington Friday morning. In the president's party will be Secretaries Wilson and Hitchcock, Attorney General Knox and Postmaster General Payne and the ladies of their families.

A STRANGE WEDDING.

Both the Bride and Groom Are Totally Blind.

Bristol, Tenn., Feb. 6.—Rev. A. H. Burroughs united in marriage a blind couple who came here from Richmond, Va. The contracting parties were F. D. Horton and Miss Mary Guindell, aged 31 each. The groom says his grandfather, who died three years ago, willed him \$20,000, conditioned upon his finding a wife, but the woman must be of sound eyesight. Horton failed to find such a woman but expects the courts to see that his fortune is forthcoming.

A LACK OF WATER.

A Heating Apparatus Plant Burned With a Loss of \$300,000.

Chicago, Feb. 6.—The plant of the Wireton Heating Co., 30 miles from this city, was completely destroyed by fire Thursday morning, causing a loss of \$300,000. The company is the manufacturer of heating apparatus, and had in its buildings a large amount of material, all of which was practically ruined. The fire department from the town of Blue Island, two miles from Wireton, was called to the scene, but was unable to accomplish anything because of the lack of water.

Oldest Active Postmaster Dead.

Niles, Mich., Feb. 6.—Daniel C. Higbee died at Bertrand, aged 91 years. Up to within a few months ago when the Bertrand post office was discontinued, Mr. Higbee was undoubtedly the oldest active postmaster in the United States, having served in this capacity for 53 consecutive years.

Price of Stoves Advanced.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 6.—The price of stoves was advanced at a meeting of the Southern Stove Manufacturers' association, held in this city, but no definite decision as to the amount of the increase was reached, this feature being referred to a committee.

British Investing.

Beaumont, Tex., Feb. 6.—The papers have been placed on file here in which the Hogg-Swayne syndicate transfers to an English company yet to be formed seven and one-half acres of land in the proved oil field at a big price.

Dead at the Age of 99 Years.

Utica, N. Y., Feb. 6.—Mrs. Leonard West, aged 99, a real daughter of the American revolution, is dead at her home in Camden. Her father fought in the revolutionary war and her husband in the war of 1812.

AN EXPLOSION OF GAS.

Thirteen People Killed and Three Dwellings Burned.

The Flames Communicated to the Sewers Below the Street and Manholes Were Blown High in the Air.

Chicago, Feb. 6.—Thirteen lives were lost, many were slightly injured, two buildings at 372 and 374 Twenty-second street were wrecked and \$50,000 damage was done by an explosion Wednesday night at the intersection of Twenty-second street and Archer avenue.

Following are the dead: Otto Trostle, 35 years old, butcher; Mrs. Otto Trostle, 35 years old; Otto Trostle, jr., 2 years old; Lena Trostle, 7 years old; Annie Trostle, 9 years old; Mamie Trostle, 11 years old; Fred Trostle, 23 years old; Sophie Knight, domestic, in Trostle family; Mary Rosenthal, 32 years old, 2111 Purple street; Mrs. M. Kaufert, 374 Twenty-second street; Edwin Kaufert, 14 years old; Mamie Kaufert, 4 years old; Andrew Kole, roomer with Mrs. Kaufert.

The cause of the explosion is unknown, and it has not been determined whether it was sewer gas or illuminating gas.

Two other explosions of gas followed so quickly that it was hard to distinguish them. First to explode was a main at Twenty-second street and Archer avenue. Then the man hole half a block south of Archer avenue, was thrown into the air by a loud explosion. Flames leaped and roared from the hole. The fire spread below the street and smaller man holes were blown into the air.

The flames from the first gas main shot into the air and reached, with the aid of the wind, the Trostle butcher shop. The building was a frame structure and it had been weakened and nearly wrecked by the shock.

The flames caught the weather worn timbers. The dry and rotting wood was food for the fire and in an instant the flames had enveloped the structure. With a roar the building collapsed and the occupants, with one exception, were carried with it to the basement. Three adjoining buildings caught fire and were consumed. It seemed that the whole block would be wiped out before the firemen could bring the blaze under control.

On several street cars near the place the windows were smashed and the passengers severely shaken up. When people in the cars saw the flames gush from the ground, all hands rushed for the doors. A number of persons were bruised and knocked down in the excited exit. One car filled with passengers was thrown from the tracks.

At 2 o'clock Thursday morning ten bodies had been recovered from the ruins of the Trostle house. They have been identified.

ADM. SCHLEY IN KNOXVILLE.

A Warm Welcome Extended to the Distinguished Naval Officer.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 6.—The warmth of the welcome extended Adm. and Mrs. Schley in Knoxville Wednesday has never been exceeded in this city. It found a climax Wednesday night in a banquet given by the chamber of commerce in honor of the admiral. Seated around the banquet board at the Woman's building were 150 of the city's prominent business and professional men. While this affair was in progress Mrs. Schley was the guest of prominent matrons in another room of the building at a course dinner.

ADM. SCHLEY'S APPEAL.

The President's Response Will Be Answered to the Admiral.

Washington, Feb. 6.—It was stated Wednesday night that the president's response to the appeal of Adm. Schley would be made public next Saturday. It is understood that the response will be adverse to Schley. A visitor at the white house Wednesday, with whom the president talked upon the subject, quoted the president as saying that he thought the verdict of the majority of the court should be sustained.

High Price For An Angus Bull.

Chicago, Feb. 6.—The Aberdeen-Angus bull, Prince It, owned by M. A. Judy, of Williamsport, Ind., was sold at auction at Dexter Park amphitheater, Union stock yards, Chicago, to B. P. Pierce & Son, Creston, Ill., and brought the record price of \$9,100. The highest price for an Angus bull ever realized in the ring before was \$8,060.

Col. Hosmer's Remains Interred.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The remains of Col. Addison A. Hosmer, who died recently, were buried at Arlington Wednesday with military honors. Funeral services were conducted at the New York Avenue Presbyterian church.

Delaney's Commando Surprised.

London, Feb. 6.—Lord Kitchener has sent the following message from Pretoria: "Maj. Leader's force surprised Delaney's commando, killing seven and capturing 131. The British casualties were slight; no British were killed."

DeWet's Last Gun Captured.

London, Feb. 6.—The British pursuit of Gen. DeWet has been successful to the extent that his last gun has been captured and Commandant Wessels, one of his principal lieutenants, has been routed.

HER STATEMENT.

Mrs. Soffel Tells of the Flight and Capture of the Biddles.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 4.—The remains of Edward and John Biddle, the dead bandits, arrived at the Pittsburg & Western railroad station shortly after 8 o'clock Monday morning, and were at once taken to the Pittsburg morgue. The morgue wagon was waiting and the bodies were quickly driven to the morgue for identification. The remains of the murderers will be turned over to their brother, Harry Biddle, who will see that they receive proper interment in the South Side cemetery.

Dispatches from Butler say Mrs. Soffel's condition is unchanged. While it is believed that she will get well, the danger is not past and on account of this uncertainty in her condition nothing is being done in the way of preparations for her removal to Pittsburg.

Butler, Pa., Feb. 4.—Mrs. Soffel, the warden's wife, made a statement Monday night to some newspaper men in the presence of Dr. Bricker, in which she said:

"I had not intended going with the Biddle boys on the night of their escape, but Ed's entreaties won me over."

She told of how she remained in the library on Thursday morning awaiting the signal for the outbreak. It was her intention to let the boys go and she could meet them later. While sitting in the library she was almost paralyzed when the two brothers came crashing through the door. In their excitement they had lost the key to this door and had to break it down.

"Ed asked me to come with them. I tried to persuade them to go. Then I felt myself giving way to Ed's persuasions and yielded. We all dashed out on Ross street. We then passed along the court house to the alley. Ed and Jack went out Grant street and, crossing the river, we met in Allegheny at their friend's house. We could not remain there and we were soon out on the road again. The night in the schoolhouse was perishing cold. The exposure affected me greatly. Now, I want to say the statements that I was intoxicated are untrue. Ed and Jack bought a half pint of whisky and I drank some of it. It seemed to stimulate me. We secured a sleigh and drove through the country all night. The night was bitter cold. There was no robe in the sleigh and I suffered terribly. When daylight came I was nearly perished by the cold."

Mrs. Soffel then narrated the terrible scene of the capture.

"The boys knew the detectives were after us and they consulted about defending themselves. Ed said to Jack, 'It is a life for a life; let's shoot them down.' When they saw them appear Ed told Jack to get ready. He recognized Detective Roach. Detective McGovern got out of the sleigh and was followed by the other two. I saw Detective McGovern fire. The shots were returned by Ed and Jack. Then there was a fusillade of bullets. I saw Ed and Jack fall out of the sleigh. I was shot. The horse took fright and ran away. Detective McGovern said, 'Kill all the d-d rascals,' and pointed his gun at me."

"Detective Swinehart called to him to have mercy on me, that it was only a woman, and not to shoot me. I did not fall out of the sleigh. I jumped out. That was all I remember. Detective Swinehart ran to me, and asked me if I was hurt, and I said I was shot. He raised me up and held my head on his knees. Then I felt myself fainting and the next thing I knew I was in the sleigh. We arrived at the jail and the rest is all known."

"My gratitude is to Detective Swinehart for his treatment of me and saving me from being shot down. The detectives were justified in shooting at the boys, for they intended to kill them."

"Did not love warden's wife. Evidence that Ed Biddle loved none but Jessie Bodine."

Butler, Pa., Feb. 4.—Ed Biddle in death is true to Jessie Bodine, despite his protestations of love for Mrs. Soffel. When Sheriff Hoon, of Butler, searched the blood-clotted clothes of the prisoner he found a crumpled mass in an inside pocket. Unfolded it disclosed a portrait of the girl cut from a western paper, and in it was wrapped a lock of Jessie Bodine's hair, black and curly, and a faded violet. The violet was one given Ed Biddle in jail here by Rev. Foster's little daughter, to whom he had inscribed verses on the flower and the joy it brought him. The sheriff tenderly wrapped up the mementoes and placed them over the criminal's heart when he laid the body out in the coffin clothed in a new suit of black. As Ed Biddle carried the curl of hair in life, they thought he would wish it near him in his grave.

Aged Judge Weds.

Henderson, Ky., Feb. 6.—Judge Francis H. McMullen, county judge of Madison and Green counties, in Virginia, and Miss Cora West Quinn, of this city, were married here. Judge McMullen is 71 years of age, while his bride is 32.

INFORMATION ABOUT A BEE.

The bee lives by its tongue, with which organ it is able to extract the honey from flowers. A bee's tongue is naturally about a twenty-fifth of an inch long. Clever beekeepers, by keeping only those bees with naturally long tongues, have succeeded in lengthening the tongues of a number of bee colonies to the extent of another hundredth of an inch. It does not sound much, but it enables those insects to do a quarter as much work again in the same time.

Mixed History.

The juvenile son of an army officer made a strange mixture of the history of George Washington the other day. A visitor called during the absence of his parents, and to entertain the children and instill a lesson of manly honor and patriotism told them the famous stories of the liberty bell and the cherry tree. The scion of the soldier was much interested, but the details got badly twisted in his head. When his father returned home he was told of the fine story the visitor had told about the Father of his Country. "Washington must have been a wonderful man," said the boy. "He smashed the liberty bell with his little hatchet and his father whipped him with a cherry tree for telling a lie." It took paternalistic turn of mind to straighten things out.—Washington Star.

Grand Trunk Secures Space at Sportsmen's Show.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company has completed arrangements for an extensive exhibition in connection with the second annual Sportsmen's Show to be held in Chicago from February 3 until February 22. The show is being held in the Coliseum, a large building admirably suited for the purpose. The exhibition will probably be the finest that has ever taken place in America, excelling even that held in Philadelphia during last December. The Grand Trunk exhibit will include the collection of large photographs of scenes throughout the summer resort districts situated on its line, including the Muskoka Lakes, Lake of Bays, the Magnetawan River, 30,000 Islands of the Georgian Bay, Kawartha Lakes, and Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, as well as views on the Portland division, combining land and water scenes, scenes in the White Mountains, and surf bathing scenes taken on the Maine sea coast.

The space to be occupied by the Grand Trunk will be about 4,000 square feet, and will be one of the most attractive and most interesting exhibits at the show. The Grand Trunk has expended thousands of dollars in bringing before the people of the United States and foreign countries the beauties of the Canadian districts. In the districts embraced in what is known as "the Highlands of Ontario," nearly 30,000 tourists were carried during the summer months, the majority of whom were from the United States. These districts have become so popular that each year finds the hotel accommodation increasing and modern and up-to-date structures are being erected to accommodate the ever increasing travel that is being brought into Canada.

Realistic.

Grimes—What do you think of Landsman's marine novel?

Hurley—It is the most perfect thing I ever got hold of. It actually is surcharged with the sea. I was sick before I had read three pages of it.—Boston Transcript.

Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c.

Constant.

Alice—Oh, no! Cholly isn't engaged! He is true to his first love.

May—Who is that?

"Cholly!"—Puck.

I do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds.—John F. Boyer, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

"Yes, they call it a 'rural play,' but it seems to me there's something lacking." "Why, so there is. There's no mortgage on the farm."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Dropsy treated free by Dr. H. H. Green's Sons, of Atlanta, Ga. The greatest dropsy specialists in the world. Read their advertisement in another column of this paper.

No sooner has a coquette given the combination that unlocks her heart than she sets about changing it.—Town Topics.

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES do not stain the hands or spot the kettle (except green and purple).

It is needless to say that things needless to say constitute a large proportion of the things that are said.—Puck.

Don't Neglect a Cough. Take Some Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar in water. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

When a man is paid for playing he calls it work.—Chicago Daily News.



DON'T "GRIN AND BEAR IT"

IF YOU HAVE Rheumatism, Gout, Sciatica, or Neuralgia, Bronchitis, USE

St. Jacobs Oil

The result will be immediate relief from pain. It acts like magic; it penetrates quickly and removes the cause of pain; it

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DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY

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VICTORIA RAPE

About 10 miles ahead of Dwarf Essex Rape in richness, in vigor and nourishing quality. It makes it possible to grow swine and sheep and cattle all over America at 1c a lb. It is marvellously prolific. Salzer's catalog tells.

Produces a luxuriant crop three feet tall within six weeks after seeding and lots and lots of pasture all summer long. Will do well anywhere. Price dirt cheap.

Grass, Clovers and Fodder Plants

Our catalogue is brimful of thoroughly tested farm seeds such as Thousand Headed Kale; Tonic, producing 80 tons of green fodder per acre; Pen Out; Split, with 100 bushels of grain and 4 tons of hay per acre; Bullion Dollar Grass, etc., etc.

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JOHN A. SALZER SEED COMPANY, La Crosse, Wis.

MISS BONNIE DELANO

A Chicago Society Lady, in a Letter to Mrs. Pinkham says:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Of all the grateful daughters to whom you have given health and life, none are more glad than I.

"My home and my life was happy



MISS BONNIE DELANO.

until illness came upon me three years ago. I first noticed it by being irregular and having very painful and scanty menstruation; gradually my general health failed; I could not enjoy my meals; I became languid and nervous, with gripping pains frequently in the groins.

"I advised with our family physician who prescribed without any improvement. One day he said, 'Try Lydia Pinkham's Remedies.' I did, thank God; the next month I was better, and it gradually built me up until in four months I was cured. This is nearly a year ago and I have not had a pain or ache since."—BONNIE DELANO, 3248 Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill.—\$5000 forfeit if above testimonial is not genuine.

Trustworthy proof is abundant that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound saves thousands of young women from dangers resulting from organic irregularity, suppression or retention of the menses, ovarian or womb troubles. Refuse substitutes.

WET WEATHER HATS

ON SALE EVERYWHERE FREE CATALOGUES OF GARMENTS AND HATS A. J. TOWLE CO. BOSTON, MASS.

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